

The questions are answered in the affirmative by the Grand Secretaries of California (by constitutional provision), Rhode Island, Nebraska (that the Master has the *right*, but he thinks they have no officer who would exercise it under such circumstances), Oregon (by regulation, which he says is not generally approved, and is contrary to his own opinion), Connecticut, and Massachusetts (who says the prevailing practice has been the other way, but he does not believe it to be correct),—six Grand Lodges.

There are forty-two Grand Lodges in the United States; of those heard from *twenty-six* hold that the objection is final, while twelve may be reckoned the other way.

We have no response from Vermont, Kansas, West Virginia, or Wisconsin.

The Grand Master of Pennsylvania decided as follows: It is a fundamental regulation that the objection of any one member of the lodge shall be sufficient to prevent the initiation of a candidate even after approval, "for he is not under the tongue of good Masonic report." Upon such objection being made in open lodge, an effectual bar is interposed to the introduction into Masonry of the candidate. The fact of the objection must be entered upon the minutes, and report thereof be made forthwith to the R. W. Grand Secretary. Questions have arisen as to where and how objection should be presented, and vague and loose ideas are entertained upon the subject. As the work of the lodge is done in the lodge, so the objection should be made therein by a member of the lodge. No reason need or ought to be given by the objector, for it is presumed that he who thus opposes the initiation is moved thereto by good and sufficient cause, that he acts under a high sense of Masonic duty and obligation, that he is swayed by no "petty malice, private revenge, partisan rancor, business rivalry, sectarian prejudice, or other like unworthy influence." It is not sufficient that the objection be made privately to the Worshipful Master on the street. When objection is made elsewhere than in the lodge, the Worshipful Master is not bound to regard it, or to refrain from his work upon the applicant. In the exercise of due caution, and of that discretion he ought to possess, he should be careful lest he admit the unworthy. But if he fail to require the objection to be made in the lodge, and refuse to enter the candidate, he adopts the suggestion as his own, and therefore becomes the objector.

When an objection has been made and at a subsequent meeting removed, the Worshipful Master should give oral notice in the lodge of the fact of the removal, and at the next stated meeting he would proceed to enter the applicant unless other objection be made. This notice and delay are proper, lest trusting to the objection already made some other member has interposed none, or lest after the objection was made others who have become members of the lodge, and have thereby acquired the right to a voice as to who shall be admitted to membership in the lodge.

---

☞ The Sixteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada will be holden at Ottawa, commencing on Wednesday, the 12th day of July, next, when a large attendance of representatives is expected.

---

☞ At a meeting of the brethren of the Ottawa city lodges it was resolved to entertain the members and representatives attending Grand Lodge at the Annual Communication, by an excursion on the Ottawa River, and a pic-nic.